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## IPV Assessment and Response within the PACT Model: Needs, Barriers, and Opportunities

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**Rationale:** Intimate partner violence (IPV), defined as physical, sexual, or psychological violence against a current or former spouse or dating/sexual partner, is a major source of morbidity and mortality for women, associated with both acute and chronic physical and mental health conditions. As the female veteran population grows, IPV is becoming increasingly relevant to VA primary care providers. The VA currently lacks a systematic process for identifying and responding to IPV. The PACT model provides an opportunity to develop and implement an innovative clinical model to respond to the IPV-related needs of women veterans that utilizes clinic resources more effectively and efficiently, taking advantage of the practice redesign. The first step in developing this model is to assess needs, preferences, and expectations for care as well as patient-, provider-, and system-level factors that may serve to facilitate or inhibit implementation of an IPV assessment and response model under the PACT system.

**Aims:**

Aim 1: To identify the scope of IPV experiences, and associated healthcare needs, among women veterans receiving VHA care.

Aim 2: To identify the opportunities and options for IPV assessment and care in the VHA setting under the PACT model.

**Stage of Development:** This project is in the early stages of development. We are currently in the process of finalizing participant recruitment and data collection instruments, hiring a research assistant/project coordinator, and applying for IRB approval.

**Methods:** This mixed-methods study includes three phases of data collection: I) patient surveys (N=250), II) patient interviews (N=25), and III) key informant (provider and administrator) interviews (N=10-15).

**Results:** We have not yet begun data collection for this study; there are no results yet to report.

**Future Plans:** The results of this study will be used to inform the development of an intervention to identify and respond to IPV-related healthcare needs among the female veteran patient population at the VHA, within the PACT setting. The next step in the research process will be to pilot test the intervention.